Effect of Pesticides on Marine Life

3267. DR. RAVI MALLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pesticides are threatening marine life as per findings of the National Institute of Oceanography;

(b) if so, the details of the losses suffered during the last three years on this account; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Incursion of pesticides in marine aquatic environment is known to be harmful to the marine life.

(b) There is no quantified a data available regarding the losses to marine life on account of presence of pesticides in marino aquatic environment.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to check the use of pesticides harmful to health and environment:-

(i) Only those pesticides which are safe for human beings, animals and the environment, are allowed to be registered for use in the country.

(ii) Farmers are trained in safe and judicious use of pesticides.

(iii) many highly texic pesticides have been banned or refused registration.

(iv) Integrated Pest Management approach is being encouraged to reduce/minimise the over-dependence on pesticides.

Unauthorised Structures on Railway Land in Bombay

3268. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unauthorised structures on railway land belonging to Central Railway and Western Railway in Bombay;

(b) the efforts being made to remove these unauthorised structures;

(c) the total number of unauthorised structures removed so far and the number of structures which are yet to be removed; and

(d) the time by which all these structures are proposed to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The number of unauthorised structures on land belonging to Central and Western Railways is 14015 and 7495, respectively.

(b) Efforts are made to remove these structures under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

(c) The unauthorised structures removed so far are 1042 and 865 on Central and Western Railways, respectively. 14015 Nos. on Central Railway and 7495 Nos. on Western Railway are yet to be removed.

(d) Due to extensive and time consuming litigation the precise time by which these can be removed cannot be indicated.